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URBAN DISTRICT OF CLEVEDON

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1960

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting a report upon the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District for 1960 and include in the statistical summaries some of the work of your Public Health Inspector.

During the first quarter of the year we had some amazingly mild and warm weather interspersed with frost and light snow and in this period there was a mild influenzal visitation and a few cases of dysentery.

The second quarter was generally cold and wet and the rest of the year was characterized by almost incessant rain, though we escaped the floods which caused such damage and misery in some areas.

But in spite of these adverse climatic conditions there has been little in the way of serious illness and the health of the people generally has not suffered from the wet and the lack of sunshine. The longevity of the population as evidenced by the high average age at death is an index to the health of the town.

While we have been fortunate in having no cases of Polio during the year - a disease which has been much less prevalent throughout the country - I must repeat my previous warnings on the need for vigilance in the protection of the young against Diphtheria. There have been, during the year, several small but highly significant outbreaks of this disease, with fatalities up and down the country, but especially in London. There can, therefore, be no let up in the duty of protecting children by means of the admirable protective inoculation we have at hand.

All the medical and ancillary services continue to function satisfactorily; the Hospital is usually full, the out-patient department crowded and the Ambulance service on constant and ready call.

The Maternity Home is usually busy and sometimes suffers from a shortage of trained midwives, a shortage which on the national scale will ultimately lead to an even larger proportion of expectant mothers seeking admission to such Homes.

The District Nurses in their dedicated work are having to meet increasing calls for home nursing and in partnership with the Home Helps relieve the pressure on beds in Hospitals and old peoples' Homes.

The Infant Welfare and other clinics are well patronised and the introduction of a chiropody service is appreciated by the elderly. Another social service, "meals on wheels", which has been organised by the Womens Voluntary Service has met with instant success and appreciation.

The provision of Old Peoples' Homes by the Local Authority is now taking shape and it looks from the number of applications for admission that it can only be regarded as a first instalment.

The rapid housing development by private enterprise continues apace and the reservation of open spaces in the upper town now begins to assume urgent importance. While you are understandably exercised by the need for control of the traffic in the lower town it may be appropriate to call attention to the increasing young population on the new housing estates in the upper town and in this context to the need for safe and easy access to the shopping centres by mothers with young children, and later by the children to reach the schools and clinics in the lower town.

It gives me pleasure to acknowledge the help and encouragement I always receive from the Chairman and members of the Council, from your Staff, from my colleagues and from the Health Departments of the Somerset County and Bristol City.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

G. MACLEOD

Clevedon.
20th May, 1961.

STATISTICS

Area of District	3,464 acres
Population (mid year estimate)	9,980
Number of inhabited houses and flats	3,348
Rateable value	£149,303
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£604

Live Births	Male	Female	Total
Number (legitimate)	62	69	131
Number (illegitimate)	6	5	11
	68	74	142

Birth Rate per 1,000 population 16.9 (corrected)
Factor for correction - 1.19
Illegitimate births % of total live births - 7.7%
Still births - nil
Infant deaths under one year (legitimate)

Male	Female	Total
1	2	3

Infant Mortality Rates

Total rate per 1,000 live births	21
Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	22.9
Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	nil

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks) per 1,000 total live births 21

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week) per 1,000 total live births 21

Perinatal Mortality Rate (total still births and deaths under one week per 1,000 total live and still births) 21

Maternal Mortality Rate (including abortion) nil

Percentage of births in Maternity Homes 82.4

DEATHS

Male	Female	Total
90	114	204

Death Rate (per 1,000 of population) 12.5 (corrected)
Factor for correction 0.62
Average age at death 77 years

Deaths of infants under one year - Cause

One male, one day old - Immaturity
One female, twelve hours old - Prematurity
One female, fifteen hrs old - Prematurity

Some of the principal causes of death:-	Male	Female	Total
Cancer of lung and bronchus	3	2	5
Other malignant diseases	7	18	25
Coronary disease and angina	27	20	47
Other heart diseases	20	26	46
Cerebral vascular diseases	15	24	39
Pneumonia	3	6	9
Bronchitis and respiratory diseases	3	1	4
Pulmonary tuberculosis	0	1	1
Influenza	0	0	0

Notifiable Diseases

	No. of Cases	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	8	0	0
Whooping Cough	23	0	0
Puerperal Fever	4	1	0
Dysentery	8	2	0
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	0

Tuberculosis

	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
Age group	Male	Female	Male	Female
15 - 24	0	0	0	1
25 - 44	1	1	0	0
45 - 64	1	0	0	0
Totals	2	1	0	1

Sanitary Services

The water supply is ample and pure but is chlorinated as a precautionary measure. All the services are working satisfactorily and the town is well kept.

Public Swimming Baths

St. Brandons School has now constructed an open air swimming pool for the use of their pupils and to obviate the necessity of their travelling to the Bristol baths. This pool is fed from the public water supply which is already chlorinated. The Marine Lake is fed from the Bristol Channel at high tides but is not treated. The discharge into the Channel in the vicinity, of further untreated sewage, is not a happy prospect.

Housing

Progress has been made in the reconditioning of some of the older properties, a sphere in which there is room for further action before deterioration reaches the stage of no return. It is quite gratifying to see what can be done to modernise some of these old houses.

Positive action taken during the year:-

Houses demolished or closed under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.	3
Certificates of disrepair received or issued	0
Number of houses made fit during the year	12
Number of temporary units occupied (prefabs)	20
Number of houses found overcrowded	0
Houses scheduled for demolition	0
Total number of applications for Council Houses at the end of the year	86
Council Houses sold during the year	0
Old peoples dwellings now begun	21
Old peoples dwellings applications received	107

Houses erected during the year		Houses in course of erection		Gained from conversion into flats	
For slum clearance	For other purposes	For slum clearance	For other purposes		
0	0	0	0	0	- Local Authority
0	70	0	26	3	- Private Enterprise

(a) No. of permanent dwellings in District as at 31.12.1959.

L.A. - 450 P.E. - 2471

(b) Gained from conversions and erected in 1960 by L.A. & P.E. - 73

Total (a) and (b) - L.A. - 450
P.E. - 2544

Less houses closed or demolished - 3

No. of permanent dwellings as at 31.12.1960 - L.A. 450
P.E. 2541

Improvement Grants

A. Discretionary

Number of applications and houses dealt with by L.A. during year.

RECEIVED		APPROVED	
Applications	No. of dwellings	Applications	No. of dwellings
11	11	11	11

Applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers - 9
Average cost per dwelling approved - £458
Amount of grant payable by Local Authority - £229

B. Standard

Applications received - 17
Applications approved - 16
Number of houses where standard amenities have been provided - 16

Food

Milk Number of Registered Distributors - 5
Number of Registered Dairy Premises (other than Dairy Farms) - 4

Designated Milk Sampling

Designation	Samples taken	Satisfactory
Tuberculin tested	52	52
Pasteurised	52	52
Sterilised	27	27

Ice Cream Premises registered for:-

Manufacture and retail - 0
Manufacture only - 0
Retail only - 34

Food Hygiene All premises have been visited and some unsatisfactory conditions dealt with.

Slaughterhouse

There is one slaughterhouse only which is owned and leased by the Local Authority and complies with the 1958 Regulations as to Hygiene and Prevention of Cruelty.

There are no Bacon Factories and no Knackers Yard. There are no premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the manufacture of ice-cream, meat products, etc.

Animals killed and carcases examined at the Slaughterhouse:-

Bullocks	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
120	17	2640	1002	947	0

Meat in lbs condemned						
0	16	0	0	36		- Tuberculosis
0	0	0	0	0		- Cysticercosis
424	400	60	96	384		- other conditions
424	416	60	96	420	0	- Total lbs.

Public Health Staff:-

Public Health Inspector - J. Topham, A.M.I.Mun.E., M.I.H.E., M.R.San.I.

Medical Officer (part-time) - G. Macleod, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.
Tel. 3297.